MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.
Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore 9, Md.



THE MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Baltimore, Maryland 21209

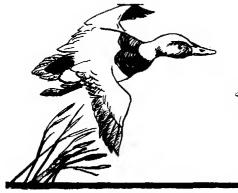
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BIRD BANDING - PLEASANT VALLEY, 1957 - 1963

Edgar W. Reynolds

As one motors west on U.S. Route 40 from Hagerstown over the mountains to Cumberland and on toward Grantsville, Maryland, one may be aware of topographic changes. Ridges and valleys are predominant; however, somewhere between Cumberland and Grantsville, a physiographic division, the Appalachian Plateau, characterized by mixed mesophytic forests, begins. The mountains, prevalent eastward, diminish not at all abruptly but easily, and are usually unnoticed by the casual observer intent on reaching home or the favorite fishing hole. Most of the forest communities are intermediate between the mesophytic forest types of the region and the northern hemlocks and hardwoods. A subdivision, the Allegheny Mountain section, alone, has its own particular and peculiar characteristics and oddities.

To reach Pleasant Valley, one need only to follow Maryland Route 495 from Grantsville, and with permission, continue beyond the public recreation area to the secluded 4-H camp across the lake where our story begins.

Pleasant Valley Run, its "headwaters" a boreal bog (one of two tributaries), empties into Cunningham Lake, 2592 feet above sea level. Although the lake is man made, it now provides the necessities required by an abundance of plants and animals, from protozoans and algae to a variety of mammals, hydric and mesophytic plants. Beavers abound in the area and construction of several lodges has often made it essential to relocate "Castor" to prevent overpopulation. Below the lake is Cunningham Swamp where one has no difficulty locating the Green Heron, the Wood Duck, the Least Flycatcher (bird of the high forests), and even an occasional snapping turtle as contrary and contemptible in the mountains as he is in the lowlands. The numerous "tail-wagging" Tubiflex inhabit the mud of the brackish water. The giant oaks, white and red, stand with the Sugar Maple, the Beech, the Shagbark Hickory, the Red Maple, and the Yellow Birch. Here and there is an occasional Hemlock and White Pine. The Rattlesnake Fern may be observed along the hillsides, and where there is adequate moisture beyond the lake, the Cinnamon Fern grows tall. In June, the Canada Mayflower is often blooming. Sometimes, even the Snowberry grows.

The Allegany County (Maryland) Bird Club, for 15 years has operated a nature and conservation camp here for children, ages 10-18 years. (Annually, except 1964). Some 100 children and 10-15 adult counsellors

arrive at the 4-H camp the third week in June. The campers and adults are housed in rustic cabins which are quite adequate and comfortable. Well that they are since the average annual temperature is near 50° F, and the average June temperature somewhere around $55-60^{\circ}$ F. Of course, the days are usually warm, but, warm or cold, the adult counsellers, cooks, and nurse are ever present to assist in the many duties that become necessary when the campers arrive.

For many of the children, this is their first true and practical experience in meeting the wonderland of nature they have so often read about in books, or seen in motion pictures. Nature comes to life! For some, this is the first time away from home, with all its problems and anxieties which are never long lasting. For others, new adventure. For all - a good time!

During the week, the children attend classes outdoors unless it is raining. Classes in bird study, trees, ferns, arts and crafts, and geology are conducted daily. The early morning bird walk is standard procedure. The adult counsellors with their many talents in other areas enrich the program.

In 1957 Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Cole attended the adult weekend at Pleasant Valley; this weekend precedes the arrival of the youngsters. Nets were strung, 40 birds of 10 species (see chart) were banded during the week, the bird banding at Pleasant Valley began . . .

The program was continued the next year by Mrs. Gladys Cole, (alias "Bunny"), a gracious lady. She explained to children, as only she can do, the importance of gaining knowledge about migration and distribution of birds. She demonstrated all phases of banding to the children, and taught several adult counsellors the techniques of banding. She gave to Western Maryland a new science and an awareness that there is still much to be done.

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The author has had the opportunity to examine the records submitted by those who helped with the program at Pleasant Valley: Mrs. Gladys Cole, William Leeson, Eleanor Minke, Melvin Garland, J. E. M. Wood, Anderson Martin, and Edgar Reynolds. As I studied the records, I found we had neglected a few of the important scientific aspects. I charge this to our exuberance about the instructional and educational success of the program in toto. We neglected to keep: daily weather data, number of nets, net hours, and net patterns. There is no accurate record in my possession of immature birds netted and banded; thus, it is an impossible task to provide a correct per-centage on returns. We attempted to be more accurate in later years; but the pressures of camp

work, where all had duties beyond instruction, interferred with detailed recording. (A separate notebook was set aside for each person to record daily at the end of the day, the birds netted.) But, we can take pride in saying we brought pleasure, enlightenment, and happiness to many youngsters. This fact makes banding at Pleasant Valley worth far more than all the completely accurate records ever could. We leave to posterity our mistakes; we also leave to posterity what we have done for all the children who attended camp.

One week per year, random sampling, will show little consistency as one may see by referring to the figures below. There is some degree of consistency for a few species. The Catbird, the Red-eyed Vireo, the Redstart, the Canada Warbler, the Chestnut-sided Warbler, the Wood Thrush, the Robin, the Ovenbird, the Towhee all show degrees of consistency. All are primary breeding species for the area with the exception of the Redstart. Many species, usually considered primary breeding species, did not appear consistently. Some species listed as secondary breeding species showed some consistency: Black and White Warbler, Redstart, and the Phoebe. We believe it is safe to assume we were not getting a good sample of the primary nesting species, or all nesting species, for that matter. In some cases constancy of population does not correlate with primary and secondary nesting species. (See date).

Red Letter Year - 1959! Why? Our suspicions are we were netting in the midst of the "tail-end" of the spring migration. No other year has been so profitable as far as numbers are concerned. Of course, we do not attempt to be "status-seekers" through numbers banded. We seek to teach conservation, and we teach it with one excellent tool, bird banding, a good psychological approach, as it were!

Some interesting items with regard to returns may be noted.

Species	Breeding Species	Number Banded	Number of Returns
Black and White Warbler	Secondary	24	0
Canada Warbler	Primary	60	0
Ovenbird	Primary	44	1
Redstart	Secondary	<u>67</u>	<u>12</u> 21
Catbird	Primary	120	21
Red-eyed Vireo	Primary	82	9

Our Red Letter Bird is a female Red-eyed Vireo. She was banded in 1958, returned in 1959, and again in 1963. She is "honored" with the red letter classification because she was netted in exactly the same place each year and constructed her nest in the same tree! Perhaps she was with us in 1960, 1961, 1962. We hope to find her in 1965!

References Consulted

Stewart, Robert E., and Chandler S. Robbins. Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1958.

615 Louisiana Avenue, Cumberland

SUMMARY OF BIRDS BANDED AT PLEASANT VALLEY UNIVERSITY OF MARTLAND 4-H GAMP BITTINGER, MARYLAND

SPECIES*	1957	<u>195</u> 8	1959	EARLY TO 1960_	OTALS _1961	1962	1963	7 Year TOTAL Banded	7 Year TOTAL Return	Frequency	TBS**
Chestnut_sided Warbler	4	7	5	15	8	2	15	56	17	6	Р
Red-eyed Vireo	5	11	16	18	16	5	11	82 82	۱٬	2	P
Black and White Warbler	2	1	3	6	2	_	10	24	ó	13	S
Redstart	4	6	22	5 1	2	1	27	67	12	4	S
Yellowthroat	1	4	5	1	-	2	8	21	1	14	P
Ovenbird	4	5	8	3	1	2	21	44	1	9	P
Eastern Phoebe	2	6	.6	5	2	1	. 3	25	1	12	s
Catbird	10	.9	34	22	18	2	25	120	21	1	P P
Wood Thrush Robin	4	10 7	9 24	7 3	5 3	-	18 9	53 50	13 8	7 8	P
				_	_			•		_	P
Canada Warbler Eastern Wood Pewee	-	4 3	12 1	8	2 1	-	34 3	60 8	0 2	5 20	5
Chipping Sparrow	-	2		1			1	4	Õ	21	P
Song Sparrow	_	2	5	ż	2	1	6	18	2	15	P
Scarlet Tanager	-	1	1	3	-	-	2	7	0	21	S
Cowbird	_	1	3	_	4	_	1	9	0	19	P
Cedar Waxwing	-	2	2	-	4	2	-	10	ō	18	P
Rufous-sided Towhee	-	3	7	5	4	4	4	27	6	10	P
Brown Thrasher	-	3	5	1	2	t	1	13	3	16	P
Black-billed CCuckoo	-	1 3	2	2	5 2	1	1	10 9	0 2	18 19	P P
Yellow-shafter Flicker	-	,	-		_		'			•	
Downy Woodpecker	-	-	1 1	2	2	-	2	5 5	0	23 23	S
Crested Flycatcher Yellow-breasted Chat	-	-	1	1 6	i	-	ĩ	9	ŏ	19	й
White-breasted Nuthatch	_	_	4	_	-	-	3	ź	ō	21	S
Veery	-	-	2	-	1	-	7	10	0	18	P
Swainson's Thrush	-	-	1	-		_	-	1	0	27	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	_1	-		-	-	_1	0	27	S
American Goldfinch Field Sparrow	-	-	55 2	2	15 4	2	2 4	74 12	2	.3	S
Golden-winged Warbler	_		4	4	6	-	12	26	1	17 11	s s
Black-throated Riue Warbler	_	_	1	_	-		12	1	Ö	27	P
Magnolia Warbler	_	_	6	_	_	_	_	è	ŏ	22	P
Black-capped Chickadee	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	5	0	23	P
Purple Finch	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	3	0	25	5
Indigo Bunting	-	-	6	2	5	-	5	18	0	15	s
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	18	5	1	-	2	26	3	11	S
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	Ō	27	
Blue Jay	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	0	27	s
Tree Swallow Nashville Warbler	-	-	3 1	-	-	-	_	3 1	0	25 27	M M
	_	-		-		-	-	'	v	27	n
Hairy Woodpecker	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	5	0	23	S
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	5	o	23	S
Worm_eating Warbler Yellow Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	1	7	2 2	0	26	M
Northern Water-thrush	Ξ	-	-	1	3	-	1 4	8	0	26 20	S P
Cardinal			_	1		_	1	2	0	26	.,
Spotted Sandpiper		-	-		1	-		1	Ö	26 27	M S
Belted Kingfisher	_		-			-	2	ź	ŏ	26	S
Hooded Warbler	-	_	-	-	-	-	2	2	ŏ	26	š
House Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	26	P
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	26	M
TOTAL SPECIES							•			. 52	
Total Individuals Banded								965			
Total Returns		•			•			•	104		
Total Number of Different Indi	viduals	return	ing .							. 90	

^{*} Sequence not from A. O. U.

† The frequency number in this summary indicates the position in a listing of the species relative to the total number banded during a period of seven ; years, and species with the same total number are provided with the same frequency number.

^{**} Typical Breeding Species: P-primary; S-secondary; M-minor

HESPERIPHONA VESPERTINA WAS HERE

V. Edwin Unger

No one recalls having seen Evening Grosbeaks in Federalsburg prior to the winter of 1957-58. The arrival of a few individual birds that year became a subject of conversation and interest for many folks who had not previously considered themselves "birdwatchers". Each succeeding winter except that of 1962-63 saw their return in varying numbers up to a few score.

Something changed in the fall of 1963. There may have been a shortage of foodstuffs in their usual haunts, or, possibly it was simply wanderlust that drove them in vast numbers to the Del-Mar-Va Peninsula. I saw the early "scouts" on Nov. 14th (three females). Within a few days the number had increased to dozens. It was difficult to estimate their numbers because many folks in the community began to feed them, and the flocks could be found simultaneously in each of several sections of the community. They invariably arrived each morning shortly after dawn, the number rapidly building up until nine or ten o'clock. They would feed with seeming desperation until eleven or eleven-thirty. At about twelve noon their numbers would begin to diminish, and within another hour most would be gone. As the season advanced, the hour of their departure advanced, slightly, but few were ever seen after three P. M. On only one or two occasions a lone bird was seen after four P.M.

I became a bander in the summer of 1963 and did my first banding at 0. R. Ocean City that Fall (see Maryland Birdlife, Dec. 1964), so I was naturally prepared and anxious to band these visitors. Also, I began to see banded birds in these feeding flocks, and wished to retrap them for the records. At the beginning, I did not possess a trap, so had to resort to a mist net, but as this could not be erected near my feeder, the hope of netting more than a few stray birds was remote. An additional feeder placed in the net area soon changed this and brought a modest number of grosbeaks to the net.

Neighborhood cats made it imperative that netted birds be removed promptly, and each trip to the net would cause the entire flock to leave the vicinity at least temporarily. It thus became evident that a trap would be more productive, and so I proceeded to construct a trap of the Seth Low type. This proved to be the answer to the problem, and now I began to band grosbeaks by the score.

Results and figures immediately became interesting and revealing. Not until my fiftieth individual, did I retake a bird I had previously banded, indicating the presence in the area of a vast number of birds. The first grosbeak was banded on Nov. 30. On Dec. 15, I trapped the first of two dozen trapped and banded elsewhere. This one was banded at Grand Marias, Michigan, on May 16, 1962.

I soon began to trap birds banded by the Peppers at Denton, Md., but knowing the band numbers, I released these without recording them.

During the season, I trapped twenty-four "foreign" birds as follows:

Year banded	Number
1959	1
1960	1
1961	2
1962	6
1963	13
1964	ĺ

By February, the "repeats" were becoming numerous, and in March and April, more than half the birds trapped were birds I had previously banded. Eventually, there seemed to be few unbanded birds left and I began to feel I was worrying "my" birds unduly and so was resigned to the need to bring the work to a close.

It is evident from the compilation of the seasonal figures that females outnumbered males, approximately five to three:

Month	Number banded	Males	<u>Females</u>
November	1		1
December	217	87	130
January	453	179	274
February	112	41	71
March	30	7	23
April	17_	_8	.9
	830	322	<u> 508</u>
"Biggest" d	a ys		
"Biggest" d December 27	, 1963 55	21	34
December 29	, 1963 63	22	41

With the records compiled and the trap stored, I naturally looked forward to the receipt of reports which would tell me where these birds were next seen. As of now (March 12, 1965) I have heard from just six of the eight hundred thirty birds banded. Here are the returns:

Date banded	Where retrapped	Date
December 20, 1963		April 1964
December 24, 1963	Enfield, Maine	May 21, 1964
December 27, 1963	Newport News, Virginia	Jan. 28, 1964
January 5, 1964	East Haven, Vermont	July 31, 1964
January 11, 1964	Ste. Florence, Quebec	July 1964

Naturally, I have looked forward to the 1964-65 season, to learn how many of "my" birds would return here, but alas, exactly one has been seen in Federalsburg this season. It visited my yard on Jan. 3, and for three days thereafter. Friends reported having seen a single bird in town at or about that same time, but none since. The Evening Grosbeak has been termed an "erratic wanderer" and the description seems most apt.

Federalsburg. Md.

RETURNS ON AMERICAN GOLDFINCHES BANDED AT KENSINGTON, MARYLAND

Katherine A. Goodpasture

From January 28, 1957 through July 5, 1959 I banded 127 American Goldfinches (Spinus tristis) in Rock Creek Hills, Kensington, Maryland. Returns on these goldfinches coupled with the movement of one of them across the Potomac and the capture at my station of a bird banded by another local bander present several records of interest.

These goldfinches were taken chiefly from spring flocks that fed at a suburban feeding and trapping station. Banding was not begun until January 28, 1957, and its regularity was interrupted significantly during the spring of 1959; we moved from Kensington in July of that year.

Table 1. -- Goldfinches Banded by Months

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Total
1957	1	4	21	3	o o	0	o	o	1	30
1958	5	7	38	20	0	0	1	0	0	71
1959	Ō	Ò	9	0	15	0	2	0	0	26
	<u>ਰ</u>	11	68	25	13	0	3	ठ	7	127

The return in 1958 of 15 of 30 goldfinches banded in 1957 gives a remarkable return rate of 50%. Three (20%) of the 15 retrapped in 1958 returned in 1959 as did a fourth bird of the original group. An additional goldfinch not previously recaptured was trapped in both 1962 and 1963. These records show that at least 17 or 57% of these banded in 1957 were alive a year later, that at least 5 (17%) were alive 2 years later and that one bird was trapped and released during the 6th winter after it was banded.

This last goldfinch was banded as a subadult male March 29, 1957. It was trapped and released by Mr. David Bridge in Parkwood, a residential area adjacent to Rock Creek Hills, Md., February 9, 1962. This bird was trapped again by Mr. Bridge a year later, January 8, 1963, at which time the goldfinch was about 62 years old.

Of 71 goldfinches banded in 1958 only one was trapped in 1959 when my banding was of necessity much interrupted. On February 25, 1960 one was found dead by Dr. Marina Lee near where it was banded in Kensington. It is of interest that a goldfinch banded March 29, 1958, was trapped and released the following day by Mr. Arthur Fast at Arlington, Virginia, an airline distance of about 8 miles.

Of 26 goldfinches banded in 1959 only one has been subsequently reported. On February 9, 1962, Mr. Bridge retrapped a bird I had banded as a subadult on March 25, 1959.

On February 11, 1958 I recaptured a goldfinch that Mr. William Belton had banded as an adult male on February 5, 1955 about a mile

south of my banding station.

Two or three summary observations may be added. Five of the 15 "returns" of 1958 subsequently repeated in the traps from 3 weeks to a month. Of 30 birds banded in 1957, 8 were recognized as adult males, 8 as subadult males, 8 as males, 2 as females and 1 as immature. Three birds not identified as to either age or sex proved upon return to be adult females. All except one of the adult males returned in 1958; one subadult male returned in 1958 and another returned 6 years after it was banded. Two males not aged in 1957 returned in 1958. Four of the 15 returns were females, 10 were males (sex not recorded for one). Traps took more birds than nets though both were in operation and effective. Sumflower seeds and fine-cracked baby chick feed were attractive foods.

It is a gratification to have the records reported by Mr. Bridge, Mr. Fast and Dr. Lee to add to my own.

3407 Hopkins Lane, Nashville, Tennessee

LIGHT ON SOME WAYS OF THE CATEURD

Hervey Brackbill

Banding as a technique of bird study has been practiced and publicized for so long that by now it must be fairly familiar to anyone at all interested in birds or in nature generally. So must some of the kinds of information it produces. It was in 1941 that I began using numbered and colored leg-bands in my own studies, and since then I have written about the doings of many particular birds, and pairs of birds, relating and interpreting their activities in ways I would never have been able to do had not the birds been made individually recognizable.

But what does continued banding, of thousands of birds, reveal about species as a whole? After 23 years it has seemed to me to be time to go over my records and see. And for no reason except that the last Catbird in my vicinity went south weeks ago and so this species! history for the year is complete, I have begun with it.

I find that I have banded, at four locations in the morthwestern suburbs of Baltimore -- Forest Park, Howard Park, Dickeyville and Larchmont -- 250 catbirds, 172 of which were adults or grown young that I could not distinguish from adults. It has long been known that an adult bird of a migrant species returns year after year to the same general nesting area as long as it lives. How many of these Catbirds, then, returned in later years?

Because the area over which I could keep close watch varied greatly from place to place and year to year, I undoubtedly failed to find some birds that came back, but I did find 37, which means that at least 21.5 per cent of all returned. And so it would seem that if there was a cat-

bird about your home this year, the chances of the same bird's appearing there again next spring are a little better than one in five.

Here is the record of my 37:

Present 2 years: 14 males, 9 females

1 male, 1 female, 1 of undertermined sex Present 3 years:

4 males 3 females Present 4 years:

Present 5 years: 1 male

2 males, 1 female Present 6 years:

All of those birds having been at least 1 year old when banded, the number of years they were present equals the minimum age each attained. My figures for the Catbird thus agree well with those that investigators have determined for some other songbird species: individuals that succeed in getting through their first winter can be expected to reach an age of 2 to 3 years, for the most part, though some will far exceed this.

The two males that I show as 6 were still alive at the end of the past nesting season, and so may have yet more years ahead. The greatest age so far reported for any catbird is. I think, 9 years.

The above total of 22 returning males, compared to 14 females, suggests that males are more likely to get back - or are longer lived - than females. If my total of 172 birds banded had been equally divided between the sexes this would be a reasonable inference, but I do not know that they were so divided; 59 of them were of unknown sex. Nevertheless, a hint that this just may be true is given by one special group: I have succeeded in banding both members of 23 pairs, and of these 46 equally divided birds 10 males made returns, but only 8 females did.

Catbirds from the south migrate into or through Maryland over a period of three to four weeks, it has been found. Where, in this stream of birds, are the ones which will stay here to nest? Are they the first to arrive, or do the earliest ones go on through, and ours arrive sometime later?

Because it is always possible that a bird which turns up "late" really arrived earlier but escaped discovery, I can not be sure just how long arrivals have continued in my neighborhoods. But in 13 of the 23 years I have found some of my marked birds back on their nesting grounds on the first few days of the migration - in 4 years on the actual first day, and in 9 more years on the second to fourth days.

So it seems that our nesting birds are commonly in the van, and that later migrants leap-frog over them to settle beyond. If, then, this order of arrival holds true throughout the species' range - and why should it not? - we get a picture of the way in which, parallel to the advance of spring, the species settles progressively farther north until its limits (in the East) of Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are reached.

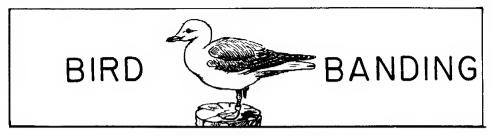
Another thing my bandings show is that the first cathirds to appear in spring are males. Really I should say that they confirm this, for it is by now well known that males of songbird species arrive first, establish themselves in nesting areas that we call territories, and there by their singing make their locations known to the later-arriving females. Just once I have found one of my females among the earliest migrants; this one was back on the second day of the movement. Usually the females have not been seen until the sixth day or later.

Perhaps in fall the males usually leave first, too, for although en occasion nesters of both sexes have been present right down to the last day on which I saw any of their species, in late September or early October, four out of the five which made the latest stays of all were females. Unhappily, my extremely late dates are too few to be conclusive. Mest often my nesting birds have disappeared in July or August, presumably moving from my comparatively built-up neighborhoods to wild land with denser cover to shelter them while they molted before flying south. My very latest dates have generally been obtained where I lived nearest to such land.

Because as a human I naturally think of the place where a bird builds its nest and raises its family as its home, it always seems somehow wrong to me that a species should spend the greater part of its year away from "home". To be sure, those which nest in the far north, where summer is short, must inevitably do so. When, some years ago, I studied my banding records of the White-threated Sparrow, a bird that nests far to the north of us but spends its winters here, I found that one individual had been about my home continuously for 183 days - half of its year, precisely - and some others for periods as long as 162 to 169 days.

But, as I say, that birds which nest away down here in Maryland should fall into this pattern seems wrong. Yet they do. The longest stay I have ever known a particular Catbird to make was 157 days, the next-longest a mere 119 days, and a quick check over my records for several other species indicates that they too spend considerably less than half of the year at their "homes".

Where our Catbirds go when they leave here in fall is one thing my studies have not, unfortunately, disclosed. Out of all the 259 I have banded, not one, whether adult, fledgling or nestling, has ever been reported outside my immediate neighborhood. A few birds that others marked during the migrations have later turned up a bit farther north, but none banded as a nesting bird in Maryland has been recovered down the Atlantic or around the Gulf coasts, which are the species' chief wintering regions.



OPERATION RECOVERY IN MARYLAND, 1964

In August, September, and October, 1964, nearly 50 M. O. S. members participated in the Operation Recovery banding program. This cooperative migration study, which began on a small scale along the Atlantic coast of the United States and Canada in the mid-fifties, now spans the North American continent. However, the twenty thousand birds banded in Maryland in the fall of 1964 constitute a significant proportion of the continental total (which probably will not reach 100,000).

The principal aim of this study is to gather information on the migratory behavior of song birds - and specifically to learn how various weather conditions affect the initiation of migration, the direction and speed of movement, differences in routes taken by adults and young, survival of adults and young, and the crowding of migrating birds into concentration areas.

The success of the study is measured not in terms of numbers of birds banded but in the amount of useful information gathered while handling the birds - or as a result of subsequent recaptures elsewhere. To this end, weights and wing measurements are taken of almost all birds captured and the age (adult or young) and sex are determined for as many birds as possible. Records are maintained showing the number of nethours of effort each day; this permits quantitative comparisons of each day's catch with relation to weather conditions.

Among the many interesting discoveries of the OR program so far are: the regular northward movement in fall of certain species (most especially Catbirds and Yellow-breasted Chats) when winds are from the south or southwest; the heavy concentrations of migrants along the coast when winds are from the northwest and along the eastern edge of Chesapeake Bay when winds are from the northeast; the amount of fat (fuel) required by different species to put them in condition to migrate; the rate at which this fat is deposited; the fact that birds continue to "burn" their stored fat for one or two days after completing a long migratory flight; that when blown too far out to sea (as after strong westerly winds) birds may exhaust their fat supplies and turn other body tissues into energy - to the point where even if they reach land they are destined to perish.

We have learned that birds of the year are much more prone to be blown off course than are adults. Most western strays that reach the Atlantic coast are immature birds; in fact, the proportion of young to adult birds of almost all species is higher at the coast than it is along Chesapeake Bay.

Operation Recovery has also resulted in such "fringe benefits" as adding new species to State and County lists, and showing that secretive species such as the small Empidonax flycatchers, the Philadelphia Vireo, the Connecticut Warbler and the Lincoln's Sparrow are much more common in Maryland than had been realized heretofore.

The devotion of the Station Leaders has been outstanding. One need only read the number of net-hours of effort at each station to appreciate the tremendous amount of painstaking work contributed by the leaders and their assistants. We have asked the Station Leaders to summarize below some of the highlights of the 1964 season.

Table 1		Summary	of	1964	٥.	R.	Bandings
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Station	Birds Banded	Net- hours	Birds/ 1000 Net_ hours	Species	Best Day	Commonest Species
Rock Run	287	1,138	252	58	Sept. 13	Ruby-throated Hummingbird 28
Morgan Creek	1,015	2,409	421	66	Oct. 3 135	Redwing 187
Damsite	3,258+	9,790+	333	83	0ct. 15 177	Myrtle Warbler 1,038
Denton	243	1,835	132	49	Oct. 3 34	White-throated Sparrow 28
Tilghman	1,640	978	1,677	65	Oct. 31 322	Swainson's Thrush 324
Ocean City	12,415	24,234	512	112	Oct. 31 1,061	Myrtle Warbler 3363

ROCK RUN

The station at this Maryland Ornithological Wildlife
Sanctuary was in operation only three weekends in August, one in
September and one in October. Best record was a very early Nashville
Warbler on August first. Twenty-three species of warblers were banded.
Ruby-throated Hummingbird was the species with the greatest number (28)
of banded individuals.

Mel Garland

DAMSITE - CHESTERTOWN

Thanks to the cooperation and loyal support of family, friends and members of the Kent and Caroline County Chapters of M. O. S., this station was in operation 2 days in August, 20 days in September and 28 days in October. 3,382 birds of 87 species were recorded. The commonest species were Myrtle Warbler (1,041), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (354), White-throated Sparrow, Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes and many Brown Creepers. A Sharp-shin and two Pigeon Hawks competed with us in watching the nets and with the deer, rabbits, flying squirrels and dogs in damaging them.

Many photographers took advantage of the subjects in hand and were especially pleased to be present for the six Sawwhet Owls which were netted the morning of Nov. 1st. A woodcock and the hawks were also favorite subjects.

Special emphasis was placed on skulling warblers and the study of the Myrtle Warbler plumages. Nets used were the Standard Type A (Bergstrom) which is my favorite all purpose net. These interspersed with British Dacron Tethered nets, both standard and small mesh, made for an efficient and satisfactory coverage.

Dorothy A. Mendinhall

DENTON

The Denton station was operated for 23 days in 1964: 6 days in August, 10 in September, and 7 in October. Because of the long drought there was very little food available for the migrants. On days with strong winds birds moved very little. Nine nets were in operation. Less than half the number of birds were banded compared to 1963. Although White-throated Sparrow was again the most numerous species, we banded only 28 as compared with 147 in 1963. Species that had not been banded before at this station included Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (a new species for the county list), Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher

TILGHMAN ISLAND

The station was operated mainly on a weekend basis from the last week in August through October (plus some partial days in early November).

Unfavorable weather conditions and the lack of good cold fronts during the days of operation greatly reduced the number of birds netted compared to the previous year. The decrease in the number of birds handled, however, allowed the collection of more data (weights, measurements, etc.) and thus compensated for the reduced catch.

Swainson's Thrush (314) was the species caught in greatest abundance, with the White-throated Sparrow (210) and Veery (173) next in line. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet, banded at the Ocean City Station, was netted in early November.

Jan Reese and Ted Van Velzen Box 213, Tilghman

OOEAN CITY

At the North Ocean City Operation Recovery Station in 1964, we found that a few more new houses had been built about two blocks from the netting area. Trees, shrubs and vines had grown and muscadine grapes were more abundant than ever.

Banding was slow until Sept. 25, but we did not and 2,634 new birds of 89 species in September. October was a busier month; weather was good most of the time and we netted, processed and banded 9,781 birds of 92 species.

Surveyors were working on part of our territory for a few days, but were very considerate and we did not have to take down nets. If the plans of the developers progress, half of our banding station site will be developed by next year.

As most people know by now, our station has been very primitive, something like an army bivouac. We were very fortunate this year to receive a gift of a portable shelter, designed by Mr. W. Henning and built by Mr. Henning and Mr. Edwin Unger, for weighing the birds. The special scales used are very sensitive to the wind and the shelter is light enough to be shifted as the wind direction changes.

This was our tenth year of banding at North Ocean City. Below is a summary of the birds banded each year:

Year	Days	New Birds	Species
Sept. 10 - Sept. 18, 1955	8	629	64
Sept. 15 - Sept. 23, 1956	8	863	74
Sept. 7 - Sept. 26, 1957	19	863	72
Sept. 5 - Sept. 21, 1958	16	1,122	66
Sept. 4 - Sept. 27, 1959	23	1,845	79
Sept. 3 - Oct. 3, 1960	30	2,368	87
Sept. 2 - Oct. 1, 1961	28	2,666	89
Sept. 1 - Oct. 1, 1962	30	4,264	101
Aug. 30 - Oct. 20, 1963	50	7,285	115
Sept. 4 - Oct. 31, 1964	57	12,415	112

BANDING HIGHLIGHTS in MARYLAND

Vernon M. Kleen

These notes are arranged in AOU order rather than in sequence of significance or importance in order to make them easier to read.

Great Rive Heron - Each year I visit a colony near Oakley, in St.

Mary's County, the third or fourth weekend in May. These herons nest
75' in pine trees; therefore, I only band about 40 birds each year.

One that I banded on May 22, 1961 was shot in Cuba on March 2, 1962.

The first weekend in June, David Bridge takes a few of us on an annual trip to Ocean City to band the 8 species of herons that nest nearby. By noon the first morning we have usually banded 750 birds. We discontinue banding at noon to keep disturbance at a minimum. The species include: Common Egret, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Little Blue Heron, Louisiana Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron and the Glossy Ibis. A few notes follow.

Little Blue Heron - Banded June 9, 1962; recovered in Trinite, Martinique, French West Indies on September 22, 1962.

Common Egret - Banded June 11, 1961; recovered in the Grand Bahamas, British West Indies on January 27, 1964.

Snowy Egret - Banded June 6, 1964; recovered in Sea Girt, New Jersey on July 19, 1964.

Louisiana Heron - Banded July 28, 1962; recovered in Oropoli, Honduras on January 3, 1963.

St. Catherine's Island in St. Mary's County is also a fine spot to band herons. It is not so easy to band there as at Ocean City; there are fewer birds, and only the Common Egrets, Little Blue Herons and Black-capped Night Herons nest commonly. Last May 23, my brother and I swam the 3/8 mile out to the island, towing a raft behind us. A Common Egret banded on that trip was recovered in Puerto Rico on November 22, 1964.

Osprey - Banded as a nestling on a channel marker near St. Catherine's Island on June 23, 1962; recovered near Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela, South America on April 2, 1964.

The best place that I have found to band shorebirds in quantity is on the Ocean City mudflats during the month of August while the birds are migrating south. I have banded the following species there: Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Short-billed Dowitcher, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs and Killdeer. As yet I have had no recoveries. In the spring (late March and early April) I also catch a few Common Snipe and American Woodcock here at Laurel, just after dark.

American Oystercatcher - banded June 9, 1962 at Ocean City. Willet - band one or two each summer; they nest around Ocean City.

Later in the summer, about the first weekend of July, a group of us again go to Ocean City. Although we still band a few herons, our primary interest concerns the banding of Common and Least Terns, Black Skimmers and Laughing Gulls.

<u>Black Skimmer</u> - banded as a nestling June 29, 1963; later I caught this same bird on August 17, 1963, 8 miles up the coast while I was banding shorebirds.

Laughing Gull - banded July 28, 1962; recovered near Apalachicola, Florida on July 4, 1963;

- banded June 29, 1963; recovered near Buenaventure, Colombia, South America on February 20, 1964.

- banded June 30, 1963; recovered near Tumaco, Columbia (8 miles from the Ecuador line), South America on January 29, 1964.

All of the above birds were banded as nestlings or as locals (just barely able to fly). The individuals recorded below were all fully grown birds and most were adult birds banded in the spring or migratory birds banded during Operation Recovery in the fall (except for the Savannah Sparrow).

Hybrid Flicker - On April 11, 1964, at Laurel, I caught an adult female that had the 4th, 5th and 6th primaries red rather than yellow.

Bank Swallows - I have been trying to determine the sex of this species by plumage. Each year I band several pairs at the Annapolis colony and can tell the sex by presence or absence of brood patch (first week of June), but have not been able to definitely see plumage characteristics which could positively be used for sex determination. If anyone has the answer, please let me know (also for other species difficult to sex).

Brown Creeper - Two records seem interesting. One was an adult bird banded at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on April 14, 1963, and the other banded there on August 14, 1963. Chan Robbins, I, and others have recorded this species there throughout the summer also. Now all we have to do is find the nest.

Warblers are probably the most interesting of all species to band, especially in the spring when they are so brilliantly colored. I am always glad to catch a few more warblers. I have banded all but 5 species that occur in Maryland; They include: Cape May, Cerulean, Blackburnian, Black-throated Green, and Yellow-throated. Some interesting notes about those which I have banded follow:

Prothonotary Warbler - nests abundantly in the Pocomoke Swamp and easily caught. I banded 9 there during the weekend of the MOS convention.

Swainson's Warbler - Nests in the Pocomoke Swamp near Whaleysville.

During the MOS convention last year I caught 5 different birds, 3 new ones and 2 returns. The returns were banded by Ted Stiles and John Weske 1 year and 4 years ago respectively. This is the first time more than one individual has ever been caught in a single year, the first time

one has ever been caught again as a return and only 4 had previously been banded in Maryland.

Lawrence's Warbler - banded at Catoctin Mountain on May 30, 1963. I also caught this same bird as a return on May 30, 1964. I am looking forward to catching it again this year.

Brewster's Warbler - banded at Catoctin Mountain on May 30, 1963. I caught this bird just 5 minutes after I caught the Lawrence's and just one inch away in the same net that I caught the Lawrence's.

Orange-crowned Warbler - banded February 17, 1963; it was caught here at Laurel (in the Piedmont) in with a wintering flock of Myrtle Warblers. I also caught another one during Operation Recovery last fall during the second week of October, also here at Laurel.

<u>Connecticut Warbler</u> - banded only during Operation Recovery in late <u>September</u>.

Mourning Warbler - caught only between May 20 and May 30 each year. Glenn Austin catches most of them for me in a dense, moist deciduous woods.

Summer Tanager - This species usually only nests in the southern and eastern part of the state. My experience with it was in St. Mary's County. One nestling that I banded there on July 5, 1962, I caught 8 miles away at the Patuxent Naval Air Station at my Operation Recovery Station.

Evening Grosbeak - I caught a bird here in Laurel on February 2, 1964 which was banded at Chisholm, Minnesota, on April 18, 1963. This is the only truly western bird I have caught. Of the 600 individuals I banded here at Laurel, so far only 11 have been recovered (from Virginia to Massachusetts).

House Finch - banded March 11, 1963, at my feeder in Laurel. I caught the male, but the female escaped banding.

Pine Siskin - These birds were common last spring along with the American Goldfinches, Purple Finches and Evening Grosbeaks. I banded 26.

White-winged Crossbill - On January 25, 1964, an adult female appeared at my feeder. A half hour later she was banded. A few days later another appeared along with the first one. She too was soon banded. They stayed until mid-April. In a nearby, short, pine woods (trees up to 12 feet) Glenn Austin and I banded 14 more, mostly males. These stayed until April 25, which set a late departure date for the state. Savannah Sparrow - one nestling banded along New Design Road in Frederick County on May 30, 1964. This established the second breeding record for the state.

Vesper Sparrow - this is the only species which I have a 100% recovery rate. That bird was banded on March 30, 1963, in Laurel and recovered on the north side of Lake Ontario, August 1964.

<u>Slate-colored Junco</u> - After long hope, I finally had one of these recovered outside of Maryland. One was recovered in Maine $2\frac{1}{2}$ years after I banded it here.

Song Sparrow - banded at Patuxent Naval Air Station on March 10, 1961; recovered in Maine on June 25, 1961.

- banded at Laurel on November 25, 1963; recovered in Maine on April 15, 1964.

All of these bandings and recoveries keep me interested and working

hard to do better and learn more. To date I have banded over 13,000 birds of 171 species, 3 hybrids and several subspecies, with 61 recoveries and undetermined number of foreign retraps.

339 Talbot Avenue, Laurel.

MIGRATING WATERFOWL AT TRIADELPHIA RESERVOIR, 1964.

R. W. Warfield

Triadelphia Reservoir is situated on the upper Patuxent River and forms part of the boundary between Howard and Montgomery Counties. This impoundment is a resting area for migrating waterfowl and also supports a small population of Black Ducks. The general status of migrating waterfowl at Triadelphia has been reviewed by Booth and in part by Stewart and Robbins². This area also has been covered many times in the Spring and Christmas counts of the Maryland Crnithological Society. However, in so far as can be determined, no study has been published on the numbers and species of waterfowl present during the spring and fall migration periods. It is the purpose of this note partially to fill this void and to stimulate others in field work at Triadelphia.

The field work was conducted during March and again during October to December. Usually the reservoir was visited early in the morning and the waterfowl were counted by walking along the shore from near Greenbridge Road to a point about one mile north at the narrowest part of the reservoir. About 80 per cent of the water area (including most of the coves) was thus seen. To insure maximum coverage a 40-power telescope and 8x35 binoculars were employed. The results of the spring field work are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Spring Counts of Waterfowl

			raren			
	1_	7	14	21	28	29
Horned Grebe		-	2	1	1	
Mallard	_	_	2	_	2	_
Black Duck	2	2	2	_	4	2
Pintail	-	_	-	_	100	_
Redhead	_	_	75	75	20	20
Ring-necked Duck	-	_	_	4	100	_
Canvasback	-	-	_	_	4	_
Lesser Scaup Duc	:k _	-	-	4	**	_
Bufflehead	_	_	_	_	3	
Common Merganser	20	10	15	3	_	_

Hank Kaestner³ recently reported on the spring waterfowl populations at another piedmont reservoir, Loch Raven, and a comparison of the two sets of data is of interest. On March 19 Kaestner noted an influx of Redheads that had presumably left their wintering area prematurely and stopped over at Loch Raven for several weeks before continu-

ing their northward migration. A similar situation appears to have occured at Triadelphia. The Redheads first noted on March 14 stayed for several weeks. The data of Table 1 also suggest that a considerable migration occured during the night of March 28-29.

The results for the fall migration, shown in Table 2, are typical for this piedmont location. Undoubtedly more nearly complete and more frequent coverage, particularly in the Middle of October and November, would have yielded several additional species. However, a similar survey conducted in the fall of 1963 yielded results comparable with those of Table 2. During September small numbers of Black Ducks and Pied-billed Grebes were present.

		10	24		31	N 0 7	v e r 21	n b e	28	D e	ç.
Horned Grebe			14		1			2		1	~
Canada Goose	159	_	5	-	_	7	10	10	10	-	
Mallard	•	_	5	5	50	100	100	150	150	100	
Black Duck	1	-	20	1	53	100	100	150	150	120	
Redhead	-	_	-	_	_	_	~	-	-	-	
Ring-necked Duck	-	_	-	-	_	_	-	23	_	_	
Bufflehead	_	-	~	2	7	5	_	1	1	_	
Ruddy Duck	_	_	1	_	_	_	~	-	-	-	
Common Merganser	-	-	_	_		_	-	_	-	2	

Table 2. Fall Count of Waterfowl

Both the Mallards and Black Ducks gather in the coves and the numbers present were estimated.

In general these results confirm those of Booth in that the reservoir provides a resting area for small flocks of migrants and an occasional larger flock. The reservoir is also a wintering area for Mallards and Black Ducks.

It would be of interest to have the results of studies at additional piedmont reservoirs and also along the Potomac River in the vicinity of Seneca.

References

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- Stewart, R. E., and Robbins, C. S., Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia, N.A. Fauna Number 62, Dept. of the Interior (1958)
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R.F.D.#1, Hereford Hills, Germantown.



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 1964

Chandler S. Robbins

October brought a welcome return to cool weather, though the drought continued in all inland areas. Juncos were scarcer than usual, but most other species of migrants appeared in good numbers in welldefined waves following passage of cold fronts across the State.

The large number of unusually late departure records can be attributed in part to the mild weather in September, and in part to the concentrated efforts of banders and other field observers in October and November. Six species of flycatchers and 25 species of warblers were recorded in Maryland in October, and five species of vireos were seen after the middle of the month.

The latest fall migrants reported from each county are summarized in table 1. Banding records are identified by underscoring. Thanks are extended to the many observers whose records are included in this table. The chief contributors for each county were: Western Maryland (Frederick, Washington, Allegany and Garrett Counties) -- Carl W. Carlson, Mrs. Sarah S. Baker, Anderson J. Martin; Baltimore City and County--Hank Kaestner: Howard--Morris Collins, Mrs. Dorothy Rauth, Mrs. Rosamond Munro; Montgomery--Carl W. Carlson, Robert W. Warfield, Lucille V. Smith, Mrs. Sarah S. Baker; D.C.--Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Pyle; Prince Georges--Vernon L. Kleen, Ted Stiles, David and Margaret Bridge, Chandler S. Robbins; Anne Arundel--Paul and Danny Bystrak, Bill Anderson, Prof. and Mrs. David Howard; Kent--Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mendinhall, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Gardner, Mr. and $\overline{ ext{Mrs.}}$ L. Lenz; Queen Annes--David and Margaret Bridge, Mrs. Jane Church, Mrs. Marian Metcalf; Caroline--Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fletcher, Marion W. Hewitt, Mrs. Alicia Knotts; Talbot--Jan Reese, Don Meritt, Richard L. Kleen, Ted Van Velzen; Worcester--Mrs. Gladys Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Aldridge Pepper, Samuel H. Dyke, Chandler S. Robbins.

Pelicans, Herons. The only hurricane bird of the season was a Brown Pelican seen at Kent Point on Oct. 20 by Mrs. Jane Church and Mrs. Marian Metcalf. This straggler from the Carolina coast was presumably blown into Chesapeake Bay about Oct. 16 by Hurricane Isbell. Very late Louisiana Herons were identified on Oct. 11 at Kent Point by David and Margaret Bridge and at Assateague Island and North Ocean City by Harold Wierenga.

Swans and Geese. Three Black-necked Swans, presumed to have escaped from captivity, wintered for the second year at Quaker Neck in Kent County. The first 17 Whistling Swans appeared at Kent Point on Oct. 24 (Bridges), but no major influx occurred until Nov. 12 (Tilghman, Jan Reese). Canada Geese wintered in excellent numbers along the east shore of the Chesapeake. Nearly 100,000 were seen on the Kent County Christmas Count and over 43,000 on the Blackwater Count. A fine specimen of the Hutchins race from Kent County was presented to the U.S. National Museum (Dr. D. Z. Gibson). A Barnacle Goose, a vagrant from Europe, was seen at Blackwater Refuge on Nov. 26 by Ted Hake; there is but a single prior hypothetical record of this species in Maryland. Blue and Snow Geese continue to increase as wintering birds in Kent and Dorchester Counties; peak counts were 14 Blues and 76 Snows in Kent County on Dec. 27 and 110 Blues and 76 Snows at Blackwater Refuge on Dec. 28. Also of note on the Blackwater Christmas Count were 1,300 Brant; 5 were observed as far up the Bay as Kent County, Dec. 27.

Ducks. A White-winged Scoter, a rarity for Garrett County, was at Herrington Manor Lake on Oct. 10 (Dean Weber).

Hawks. It was a good winter for Rough-legged Hawks throughout eastern and central Maryland. The total of 27 on the Dec. 28 Blackwater Count smashed the previous State record of 16 birds in one day, and at least 1 or 2 were identified on most of the other Christmas Counts. Another new high was established at Blackwater by a count of 80 Marsh Hawks. Once again an immature Golden Eagle wintered at Blackwater Refuge; as many as 4 were seen there on Nov. 26 by Ted Hake.

Introduced Gallinaceous Birds. A female Turkey was seen with 8 young near River Road (between Shepherd Road and the Potomac River) in Montgomery County, suggesting that the release of birds in that area is proving successful (Sheila Cochran). Ring-necked Pheasants were seen as far south as central Frederick County, central Howard County, southwestern Talbot County (Tilghman) and northern Caroline County (Greensboro).

Shorebirds. Although Woodcocks can be found regularly in winter in Dorchester and Worcester Counties, the listing of 3 on Quaker Neck in Kent County on the Dec. 27 Christmas Count was a surprise; 10 were found on the next day at Blackwater. A Golden Plover seen in a muddy field near Sycamore Landing on Oct. 4 provided the first record for Montgomery County (Robert Warfield). Persistent coverage of inland shorebird flats yielded several interesting records: White-rumped Sandpipers at Sandy Point on Oct. 2 and 3 (Wierenga), Lilypons on Oct. 11 and 17 (Carlson) and Loch Raven on Oct. 24 (Hank Kaestner); Pectorals at Lilypons through Oct. 11 (Carlson) and Loch Raven through Nov. 15 (Kaestner); and Dunlins at Sycamore Landing on Oct. 4 (Warfield) and Lilypons on Oct. 11 and 25 (Carlson). Four Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Lilypons to Oct. 17 and a Western Sandpiper was there on Oct. 11 (Carlson). The Sept. 7 D. C. arrival date for Least Sandpiper in the December issue was in error; a Least Flycatcher was banded on that date.

	Mah	1. 1	T. T.	011		ırtu	ro De	tec	10	Sh.		
Species	W.Md	le 1 Balt	Howd.	Mont	D.C.			Kent		Caro	Talb	Wore
Green Heron		10/3		9/12	2707	11.70	- I	10110	10/11	<u> </u>	10/11	9/21
Common Egret	9/18			10/6			10/18		10/3	9/21	8/14	
Snowy Egret Broad-winged Hawk	9/26		10/, 3	9/12		9/26			10/18		10/18	9/18
Osprey Spotted Sandpiper	10/5	9/2	10/ 3	10/11		10/1	9/26		10/11 9/27		10/29 9/25	10/10
Greater Yellowlegs Lesser Yellowlegs	10/29 10/17			$\frac{11}{10}$					9/11	9/2 1 10/ 9	11/14	9/27 10/10
Pectoral Sandpiper Yellow-billed Cuckoo	10/29	11/15 10/3		10/23			10/ 5	10/9	9/27	9/17		10/10
Black-billed Cuckoo	3/20	10/ 3		9/ 8				10/14	10/ 6	10/31		10/30 10/4
Whip-poor-will Common Nighthawk	9/18	9/20		9/21		9/25	9/ 8 9/ 7	9/12	10/ 5 8/29	9/23	10/4	9/ 5
Chimney Swift Ruby-thr.Hummingbird	10/12 9/12			10/11 10/1	10/3	10/16		9/20		10/13	9/21	10/18 9/ 9
Red-headed Woodpecker	7/		11/ 9 9/ 6	9/5				- 2/ 20	<u> </u>		10/26	10/6
Eastern Kingbird Gt.Crested Flycatcher	9/12		9/6	8/18			9/ 8 9/ 8		9/13 9/23		9/6	9/18 10/12
Eastern Fhoebe Yellow-bell.Flycatche:	r		10/16	10/17	10/12	10/10	10/14 10/5	10/22 9/20	10/24 9/26	10/ 9 9/15	10/18 9/20	
Acadian Flycatcher	9/18			9/ 8			10,)		9/26	9/10		
Traill's Flycatcher Least Flycatcher	9/12				9/ 7			9/25 9/22	9/25 9/26	9/15	9/20 9/20	10/ 6
Eastern Wood Pewee Tree Swallow	10/3	10/3	10/18	10/1			10/5	9/25	10/5	10/31		10/17 9/21
Barn Swallow	9/18	8/20		9/30					9/19	10/ 51		10/18
Purple Martin House Wren		10/ 4	/-0	8/22	10/1	,		10/6			10/13	
Catbird Brown Thrasher	10/13	10/4				10/15				10/14 10/29	10/31 10/24	10/31 10/24
Wood Thrush	9/18	10/4	10/10		20/06	10/8	10/8	10/13	10/5	9/24	10/8	10/20
Rermit Thrush Swainson's Thrush		10/ 4	10/11			10/8		11/ 1 10/24	10/24	10/3 1 10/8	11/ 7 10/24	11/ 1 10/24
Gray-cheeked Thrush Veery	10/3	9/12	10/11	10/ 3 9/ 8	10/ 3	10/3	10/ 3 9/26	10/17	10/18	10/ 3 9/10	10/ 6 9/26	10/31 10/27
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	10/12		33/0	9/24	22/25	9/ 2		20/01:	10/11		9/27	9/18
Ruby-crowned Kinglet White-eyed Vireo	10/13 9/18	,	9/3		11/17	11/ /	9/20	10/24 10/5	10/24 10/5	10/31 9/19	10/31 9/5	11/ 1 10/19
Yellow-throated Vireo Solitary Vireo	10/13	9/12	9/ 7	9/20 10/ 6				10/8	10/24		10/3	10/18 10/27
Red-eyed Vireo Philadelphia Vireo	10/ 3 9/18	10/4	9/ 7	9/ 9	9/27 9/13	10/10	10/ 3	10/24 9/17	10/ 6 10/ 3	9/21	9/19 9/25	10/31 10/20
Black-&-white Warbler Worm-eating Warbler	9/18	10/ 4 9/12	9/12	10/4	27-5		10/ 5 9/26	10/5		10/8		9/27
Blue-winged Warbler		9/12		9/16			9/20		9/12			10/24
Tennessee Warbler Nashville Warbler	9/18	10/4	9/16	9/14 10/ 4	9/27	9/29	10/5	10/16 10/23	10/ 5 10/ 3	10/ 3		10/21 10/28
Parula Warbler Yellow Warbler		10/ 4 9/12		10/1			10/ 3	10/3	10/ 6 9/10	8/24		10/19 9/26
Magnolia Warbler		10/ 4		10/ 3	9/27		10/8	10/ 7	10/18	9/ 7	10/13	10/24
Cape May Warbler Black-thr.Blue Warbler	9/18	10/4	10/ 3	9/26	9/26 9/25	10/2	9/30 10/ 1	10/ 7 10/ 9 11/ 1	10/11 10/11	10/ 3 10/ 3	10/18	10/23 10/21
Myrtle Warbler Black-thr.Green Warb.	9/18	10/4		11/ 7 10/ 4		10/24	10/10		10/24			11/ 1 10/20
Blackburnian Warbler	9/18	9/12	9/6			9/26	9/30	10/ 3	9/12		9/ 3	10/21
Chestnut-sided Warbler Bay-breasted Warbler	10/3	9/12			10/20 10/18	9/27	9/20	9/18 9/26	10/ 5 10/ 5	9/24		10/19 10/12
Blackpoll Warbler Prairie Warbler	9/18 9/12	10/ 5 9/12	9/ 3	9/15 9/ 8	10/20	10/ 2		10/13	10/18	9/26 9/26	9/27	10/30 9/28
Palm Warbler	10/10	20/ 5	0/00	10/ 2		10/20			10/24	10/1	11/8	11/ 1
Ovenbird Northern Waterthrush	10/10	9/12	9/20	10/ 6 9/19		10/ 3	10/2	10/11		10/ 1 9/14		10/20 10/18
Kentucky Warbler Connecticut Warbler		10/ 4		9/8	9/20	8/26 10/ 3	8/31	10/_6			9/26	9/12 10/24
Yellowthroat	10/ 5	10/19		10/4	9/26		10/17			10/1	11/ 5 11/ 8	
Yellow-breasted Chat Hooded Warbler	9/20	10/19		- /		9/ 2	9/20	10/19	10/11 10/5	1	9/26	10/28 10/ 6
Wilson's Warbler Canada Warbler	9/12		10/, 6		,		9/19	10/ 6 9/20	10/ 4 9/21	9/15 9/.7	9/12	9/26 9/16
American Redstart Baltimore Oriole	9/24	9/12	10/ 1	10/3	9/27		10/ 2	10/6	9/25	10/ 1 10/ 1	10/ 4 11/21	10/29
Scarlet Tanager		10/4	10/10				9/26	10/14		10/ 8		10/20
Summer Tanager Rose-br. Grosbeak	9/12 10/3	10/4				9/14	9/26	9/19	9/26	10/ 3	9/26	10/20
Blue Grosbeak Indigo Bunting	9/18		9/20				8/31 10/ 1	10/19	9/26 10/11	9/16	10/12	10/23
Rufous-sided Towhee), co	10/22	10/23	<u>11/ 7</u>		<u>,2</u>	10/24	10/31 10/9	10/31	11/ 1
Savannah Sparrow Vesper Sparrow	10/29		22/6	10/23					9/10	±0/ 9		10/31 10/31
Chipping Sparrow White-crowned Sparrow	10/29		11/6	10/28	_			10/24	10/2h	10/21	10/29	
Fox Sparrow	10/ 2		12/6			10/ 2	10/ 1		· .	,	11/15	11/16
Lincoln's Sparrow	10/3					10/ 3	TO/ T	10/15	70\ TO		11/ 1	10/24

Gulls and Terns. No rare gulls or terns were seen, but there were several high counts of the common species: 73 Great Black-backs in Kent County on Dec. 27, and 15 in southern Dorchester County on Dec. 28; 3,225 Ring-bills on the Dec. 29 Ocean City Count and 810 in southern Dorchester County the previous day; 260 Forster's Terns in Talbot County on Oct. 18 (Reese). Bonaparte's Gulls were noted for the first time on the Kent County and Southern Dorchester Counts. Forster's Terns were last observed on the Piedmont on Oct. 10 (Seneca by Warfield) and along Chesapeake Bay on Nov. 29 (33 at Tilghman by Reese).

Cuckoos, Owls. Late Yellow-billed Cuckoos were banded at Denton on Oct. 31 (Mrs. Fletcher) and Ocean City on Oct. 30 (Mrs. Cole). The Mendinhalls' Christmas card was not made by trick photography; all 6 Sawwhet Owls were caught and banded at their home station, "Damsite," near Tolchester, on Nov. 1. This is the largest number ever seen in one day in Maryland. Three were banded the same day at Tilghman (Reese and Van Velzen). Most ambitions to obtain record totals of owls on Christmas Counts were shattered by windy and rainy weather. The highest counts at hand are indicative of what might be accomplished in other parts of the State if sufficient effort were expended and if weather conditions were suitable: Screech Owl, 34 (St. Michaels); Great Horned Owls, 46 (Lower Kent County); Barred Owl, 7 (Lower Kent County); Short-eared Owl, 8 (Southern Dorchester County).

Woodpeckers. We believe that most woodpecker migration takes place during daylight hours. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, however, typically migrate by night; Hank Kaestner found the remains of 7 beneath the Baltimore TV tower on Oct. 4 and 2 on Oct. 19. The Yellow-shafted Flicker migration reached its peak at Ocean City Sept. 24-26, and at Tilghman, Oct. 1 (300 birds). High Christmas Counts of woodpeckers included: 167 Yellow-shafted Flickers at Ocean City (their third-highest) and 160 in Kent County; 116 Red-bellied Woodpeckers at Ocean City, 113 in Kent County, and 100 at Triadelphia; and 20 Pileateds at Ocean City and 6 in Allegany County.

Flycatchers and Swallows. A Traill's Flycatcher banded at Ocean City on Oct. 6 and a Least Flycatcher banded there on Oct. 7 were later than the State records in Birds of Maryland. The Traill's may be the latest for the State, but I have no way to check on this in my hotel room in Honolulu. An Eastern Phoebe wintered again at Seneca (Warfield), and Mel Garland saw one on the Allegany Count on Dec. 26. There have been previous late reports of Barn Swallow in Maryland, but none can match the 2 birds seen on the beach at Plum Point in Calvert County on Nov. 21 by John Fales.

Jays, Ravens, and Crows. Over 1,000 Blue Jays passed Kent Point on each of the following days: Oct. 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Bridges). Carl Carlson saw 2 Common Ravens over Fox Gap and 1 at nearby Monument Knob on Oct. 3. This species is rarely seen east of the Hagerstown Valley. Fish Crows were reported wintering more commonly than usual; there were 70 on the

Catoctin Christmas Count, and 56 in Southern Dorchester County where the highest tally in the 17 previous winters was only 13 individuals.

Chickadees, Nuthatches. Carolina Chickadees were unusually common. This apparently is the result of a successful breeding season rather than an influx of birds from elsewhere, as no migration was detected at the Operation Recovery stations. Peak Christmas Count tallies were broken at Triadelphia (425) and Southern Dorchester County (218), and Ocean City had its second highest total of 470. Red-breasted Nuthatches were extremely scarce; only 7 were reported.

Catbirds, Thrushes. Catbirds wintered more commonly than usual. Ocean City had a new high of 21 on their Christmas Count and one was found on the Dec. 26 Allegany County by Mrs. Billie Taylor and Mrs. Charlotte Folk. Swainson's Thrushes were banded in four counties on the late date of Oct. 24. Two Gray-cheeked Thrushes set a late date at the Ocean City banding station on Oct. 31, as did a Veery on Oct. 27 (Cole and others). The peak migration of Hermit Thrushes took place on Oct. 31, when exactly 150 were banded at Tilghman by Reese and Van Velzen, setting a State record for abundance. Kent Point banders netted 72 on Oct. 18. Bluebird numbers, on the whole, showed no improvement over last year; the highest count was 68 in the Poolesville area on Oct. 17 (Carlson and Mrs. Baker).

Gnatchatchers and Kinglets. A late Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was spotted at Kent Point on Oct. 11 by Paul and Danny Bystrak and Bill Anderson. It was a poor winter for Golden-crowned Kinglets and an exceptionally good one for Ruby-crowns. As many as 51 Ruby-crowns were found on the Southern Dorchester County Christmas Count, 23 in Kent County, 17 at Triadelphia, and 3 in Allegany County.

Vireos. Late vireos, all with bands on their legs, were reported as follows: White-eyed at Ocean City on Oct. 19, Yellow-throated at Ocean City on Oct. 18, Solitary at Kent Point on Oct. 24 and Ocean City on Oct. 27, Red-eyed at Damsite on Oct. 24 and Ocean City on Oct. 31, and Philadelphia at Ocean City on Oct. 20.

Warblers. Noteworthy warbler records fall into two categories: high counts and late dates. Both high counts were of birds banded at Kent Point: 67 Magnolia Warblers on Oct. 1 and 72 Black-throated Blues (State record) on the same day. Ocean City totals for the same day were 2 and 1, respectively. Late records were as follows: Blue-winged, Magnolia, and Connecticut Warblers banded at Ocean City on Oct. 24; Nashville banded at Damsite on Oct. 23 and Ocean City on Oct. 28; Yellow banded at Damsite on Oct. 5; Black-throated Blue and Blackburnian banded at Ocean City on Oct. 21 and Chestnut-sided on Oct. 19; Ovenbird banded at Tilghman on Oct. 31; Northern Waterthrush banded at Ocean City on Oct. 18; a Yellowthroat seen in Talbot County on Nov. 5 (Don Meritt); Yellowbreasted Chats in four counties on Oct. 19, with eight later stragglers at Ocean City and a Nov. 8 bird banded at Tilghman; Hooded Warblers

banded at Kent Point on Oct. 5 and Ocean City on Oct. 6; and American Redstart banded at Ocean City on Oct. 29.

Orioles. A late Baltimore Oriole was seen in Talbot County on Nov. 21 (Reese). Two appeared at the feeder of Peter Gilsey in Chevy Chase, Md., on Dec. 20, and one was seen daily at Sandy Spring from late November through the rest of the period (Mrs. A. S. Michael).

<u>Dickcissels</u>, <u>Towhees</u>. A very early Dickcissel visited the Dean Weber feeder at Clinton on <u>Aug.23</u>. Rufous-sided Towhees broke records of abundance on several Christmas Counts; there was 3 at Catoctin, <u>31</u> at Rock Run, 34 at Triadelphia, and 62 in Kent County.

Sparrows. A Seaside Sparrow was found on the St. Michaels Christmas Count on Dec. 27. I believe this is the northernmost winter record on the east shore of the Bay. A Lincoln's Sparrow banded at Tilghman on Nov. 1 (Reese) exceeded by two days the latest fall departure date for Maryland.

Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel

STATE_WIDE BIRD COUNT, May 1

On Saturday, May 1, 1965, members and friends of the M. O. S. will participate in the 18th Annual State-wide May Count. This count is taken just one day each year.

After the Count has been completed, send all lists to Vernon Kleen, 339 Talbot Street, Laurel, Md. 20810, in time for the June issue of Maryland Birdlife

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Reservations must be made by May 1, 1965

A REMEMBRANCE: FLORENCE HELEN BURNER

Ruth L. Wormelle

Florence Helen Burner will be remembered as one who truly loved the out-of-doors. It seems this interest began with her teaching career in 1909. At School #2, Miss Evaline Ulrich who also taught the first grade, "was a great walker". She took Florence "at noon to various local points of interest". Together they "joined the botany class (one of the first extension courses offered) taught by Mr. Charles C. Plitt". They also went at Miss Ulrich's insistence "on excursions planned by Dr. Kock to points of interest around Baltimore". (Quotations from notes found by her niece, Mrs. Helen Burner Stifely, in Florence's desk)

The more abiding of the interests stemmed from the botany class. I first met Florence on a Saturday botany tramp with Dr. Plitt in October, 1928. She had been one of the more regular attendants of these year-around Saturday tramps for nearly twenty years and continued on them until after the death of Dr. Plitt in 1934. Some of the places we tramped in those days were: the Walters' Estate (now the site of the Woodbourne Junior High School) because of the wide variety of imported trees and shrubs; Soldier's Delight, for Phlox subulata in the spring and the gentians, both fringed and bottled, in the fall; Ben's Run, for marsh marigold; Severn Rum area for Schweinitzia, climbing fern; Cranberry Bog, Garrett County for golden thread, etc.; Marley Creek, for Helonias and box huckleberry. Many of the favorite sites have long since been swallowed by Megalopolis. For all of the trips Florence kept records -- filling many notebooks with lists of plants in bloom and other pertinent data such as meeting places, weather, etc. always be counted on to know where and when such a plant was seen in bloom the previous year. She was also the bird enthusiast of the group.

With all this activity and of course her teaching, she managed to find time to plan and execute the most charming of back yard gardens.

When the Mountain Club of Maryland was organized in 1934, a prime mover was Osborne O. Heard, also a devotee of the botany tramps. He got the enthusiastic support of the more active trampers including Florence Burner. Though the trips of the Mountain Club covered more ground in more distant places the interests were the same: birds, flowers, trees, topography. In fact, a "Bird group" in the club arranged special trips with W. Bryant Tyrrell. Florence was an active participant and group leader for several years. Carroll Island with enormous flocks of swan, geese, ducks, to say nothing of the bald eagles; Old Rag Mountain in the Blue Ridge with the Ravens nesting in its rocky ledges are two of many trips that come to mind now.

These, however, were the milder forms of her activity. She was an ardent ice-skater (skating regularly with the teachers at Carlin's Rink) and attended the winter sports trips of the Mountain Club with this in mind. If the ice was not good, tobogganing was fine. Her hiking

centered around, but was by no means limited to, the Appalachian Trail. She was a "High-point" collector. Just how many state high points she actually listed as having been scaled, I do not know. Two western trips with other club members left few to be checked off. Though she did not hike the whole length of the Trail she knew both the top of Katahdin, Maine (northern terminus) and Mount Oglethorpe, Georgia (former southern terminus) and was familiar with many sections throughout the length of the two thousand miles. In the early days of the club she assumed responsibility for the maintenance of a section of the trail north of Pen Mar. (Publications #1 and #11 of the Appalachian Trail Conference give the specification for trails and their maintenance). In general this meant keeping the trail clear of tall weeds, removing any branches that would obscure blazes, and painting the blazes.

Just as a group of the Saturday Trampers gave impetus to the organization of the Mountain Club so a group of bird enthusiants of the Mountain Club contributed to the organization of the Maryland Ornithological Society. Florence Burner was one of these. Dr. Rowland Taylor, in the Baltimore Chapter News Letter of March first, has given a splendid summary and evaluation of her contribution to the Society. For those who do not see this News Letter. I quote:

"For all these years (20) she served as a member of the Board, as an officer, or as a committee chairman. Her school teacher's wit and sense of values have helped us many times to keep things in their proper perspective. For 15 years she served as Trip chairman and in this capacity she kept complete bird and trip records. She continued to compile this information until shortly before her death. For several years Miss Burner was "Information" to members and non-members. No one knows how many have joined MOS because of information she gave them . . . The last thing she did for us was to compile the delightful 'Highlights' of the early years' which was presented at our 20th Anniversary Meeting this past month."

Florence was born to Charles F. and Laurel Bucklands Burner on April 4, 1889, in Newark, Ohio (the second of four children). Early in this century the family moved to Baltimore where she attended the Western High School and the Teachers Training School. In 1924 she was awarded the Bachelors degree (French and Spanish) by the Johns Hopkins University. It was after this that she taught in the secondary schools including Forest Park High School and Western High School from which she retired in 1960.

Her amazing health and physical vigor was matched by her alert logical mind and dependable, forth-right personality. Her death on February 20, 1965, culminated a full and fruitful life. She will be long remembered with affection and respect by many people.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dorothy A. Mendinhall

It gives me great pleasure to report that our membership now stands at 941. This means that many of the new members will need the help of each of us to acquaint them with all the information so many of us take for granted is common knowledge. Let us all strive to explain and publicize the many splendid programs that are available to all members and urge an interchange of program participation among the chapters.

Now is the time to participate in the annual meeting and convention at Ocean City, Maryland, May 7, 8, 9. This is the highlight of our year when the diversified interests of all members are met. The finest trip leaders -- specialists in sight, sound, song and in hand identification of shore birds, passerines, etc. -- are present to teach beginners, to share and discuss their knowledge with the experts. And for those non-birder spouses, friends or children bring them along to enjoy sun, sea, sand and sociability. There is a welcome for the whole family. The inexpensive but gracious hospitality of The Conners at the Hastings-Miramar awaits you.

Meanwhile M. O. S. has been honored to be the hosts for the EBBA Convention, with Gladys Cole and Chan Robbins in charge of arrangements. We are proud to be able to share our knowledge of the Ocean City area with our banding friends who will meet there April 23, 24, 25.

And now as this will be my last President's Page, may I say thank you for the many ways you all have contributed to the success, honor and pleasure that has been afforded me as your leader. A hearty welcome to the new officers and may great success attend them and M. O. S.

Damsite, Chestertown.

COMING EVENTS

April	24	BALTIMORE	Loch Raven for spring arrivals. Leader: Mr. Charles Buchanan (ID5-8305) 8 A.M.
April April		KENT BALTIMORE	Field trip Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Botany-Bird Walk. Leaders: Dr. Elizabeth Fisher (HO7-0676),
			Mrs. Carl Francis (NO5-3943) and Mrs. Robert Kaestner (DR7-8990)
April	25	TALBOT	Breakfast Hike. Hostesses: Dottie Bowman and Stewart DeButts. Meet Easton, 7 A.M.
April	27	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland
April		ALLEGANY	Monthly meeting 7:30 P.M. Botany Seminar. Mr. Wm. Leeson, Guest: Mrs. Edward Mendinhall,
April	30	TALBOT	State M. O. S. President Monthly meeting. "Report on West Indies Trip" by Richard Kleen.

May May	1 2	STATEWIDE BI	RD COUNT
May	2		
	~	BALTIMORE	Mill Creek Sanctuary. Leaders: Mr. Richard
			Kleen, Talbot Chapter President and Dr. W.
			Rowland Taylor, Baltimore Chapter President.
May	2	TALBOT	Breakfast Hike. 7 A.M.
May	4	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland
May	6	FREDERICK	Monthly meeting. Dr. Walter Foster to speak on
			status of proposed dams.
May	7-9	M. O. S. CON	VENTION at Ocean City, Md. Make own reservations
			at Hastings-Miramar before May 1st.
May	8	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland for those unable to attend the
			Convention. Leader: Mr. William Corliss
			(NO8-6047). Meet Lake & Roland Aves. 7 A.M.
May	11	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland
May	13	BALTIMORE	Pleasantville & Countryside for warblers.
•	-		Leader: Mrs. Carl Lubbert (DR7-6346)
May	15-16	TALBOT	Weekend at Carey Run Sanctuary in Garrett County
May	16	BALTIMORE	Rock Run Sanctuary. Leaders: Mr. Mel Garland
•			and Mrs. Nicholas Kay (VA3-1533)
May	16	TALBOT	7 A.M. Breakfast Hike
May	16	KENT	Botanical field trip. Leader: Dr. Elmer
•			Worthley.
May	18	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland
May	22	ANNE ARUNDEL	= 1
•			Leader: Mrs. E. G. Riley (647-3999)
May	22-23	BALTIMORE	Chincoteague-Assateague Island, Va., trip.
•	_		Field leader: Mr. Ted VanVelzen of Migratory
			Bird Populations Station, Patuxent Research
			Center. Leader for information and reservations
			at Channel Bass Hotel: Miss Grace Naumann
			(DR7-9032)
May	23	ALLEGANY	Carey Run Sanctuary field trip 9 A.M.
•			Leader: Mr. Ken Hodgdon
May	23	FREDERICK	Annual picnic at Seneca
May	25	BALTIMORE	Lake Roland
May	29	BALTIMORE	
· Lay	~7	DADITROTES	Catoctin Mt. & Buckeystown. Leader: Mr. Vernon Kleen.
June	3	FREDERICK	
b unio	,	PRODUCTOR	Monthly meeting. Speaker: Dr. Paul H. Fluck,
June	8	BALTIMORE	Washington Crossing Nature Education Center.
o otre	G	DALITRORE	Picnic Supper in McKeldin Section, Patapsco
			State Park, and courtship flight of Nighthawk in
			Soldiers Delight at sunset. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs.
Jima	11 12	ALLEGANY	Joshua Rowe, VA5-3076
June	11 13	BALTIMORE	Pre-camp training at Western Maryland 4-H Center
20010	11-17	DALITHORS	Junior Nature Camp at Camp Mohawk on the
			Patuxent River. For information contact Mrs.
			N. K. Schaffer, 8 Beechdale Road, Baltimore,
June	1/1, 10	ATT TWO A NEW	21210. "Phone 323_4090
- Wic	14-19	ALLEGANY	Junior Nature and Conservation Camp. Western Maryland 4-H Center.
	25 20	ALLEGANY	Anniversary weekend. Chairman: Mrs. C. Gordon

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